

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A diverter valve for selectively controlling the flow of fluid from a fluid source to one of at least two fluid outlets, the valve comprising:

a housing defining at least one flow passage and having an outlet for diverting fluid from the fluid source to a device, and an inlet for receiving fluid from the device;

a first ceramic plate mounted to the housing and fixed against rotation, the first ceramic plate having at least one flow passage in registry with the housing flow passage; and

a second ceramic plate rotatably mounted within the housing, the second ceramic plate having at least one flow passage that can be selectively placed into fluid communication with the housing flow passage; and the diverter valve characterized by:

an accessory case fixedly mounted to the second ceramic plate, the accessory case having at least one flow passage in registry with the at least one second ceramic plate flow passage, wherein the at least one flow passage in the accessory case is configured to mount a flow adapter,

whereby rotation of the second ceramic plate can selectively cause fluid to flow through the device, to bypass the device, and to flow through the at least one flow passage in the accessory case.

2. (Previously Presented) The diverter valve of claim 1 wherein the accessory case is adhered to the second ceramic plate.

3. (Previously Presented) The diverter valve of claim 2 wherein the accessory case is adhered to the second ceramic plate by an adhesive.

4. (Previously Presented) The diverter valve of claim 2 wherein the adhesive is epoxy.

5. (Previously Presented) The diverter valve of claim 1 wherein the accessory case mounts two flow adapters.

6. (Previously Presented) The diverter valve of claim 5 wherein one flow adapter is for aerated flow and a second flow adapter is for stream flow.

7. (Currently Amended) The diverter valve of claim 1 wherein some of the flow passages in the housing and the accessory case are configured and oriented radially to substantially balance hydraulic pressures ~~acting on~~radially across the ceramic plates, whereby to minimize separation of the ceramic plates from each other.

8. (Previously Presented) The diverter valve of claim 7 wherein a flow passage in the housing is open to and parallel with the first ceramic plate whereby pressure in the flow passage can act against the first ceramic plate to urge it toward the second ceramic plate.

9. (Previously Presented) The diverter valve of claim 1 further comprising a thrust bearing and a retainer, wherein the thrust bearing is disposed between the retainer and the second ceramic plate, and bears against the second ceramic plate with reduced friction to enable the second ceramic plate to rotate with lower torque.

10. (Previously Presented) The diverter valve of claim 9 wherein the thrust bearing comprises a wave spring and washer.

11. (Previously Presented) The diverter valve of claim 9 wherein the thrust bearing comprises a low friction washer.

12. (Previously Presented) The diverter valve of claim 11 wherein the low friction washer comprises PTFE.

13. (Previously Presented) The diverter valve of claim 9 wherein the thrust bearing is a roller bearing.

14. (Previously Presented) The diverter valve of claim 1 wherein the first ceramic plate is adhered to the housing.

15. (Previously Presented) The diverter valve of claim 1 further comprising at least one ring seal between the first ceramic plate and the housing.

16. (Previously Presented) The diverter valve of claim 15 comprising three ring seals between the first ceramic plate and the housing.

17. (Previously Presented) The diverter valve of claim 15, wherein the ring seal is seated within a groove.

18. (Previously Presented) The diverter valve of claim 17 wherein the groove is a dovetail groove.

19. (New) A diverter valve for selectively controlling the flow of fluid from a fluid source to one of at least two fluid outlets, the valve comprising:

a housing defining at least one flow passage;

a first ceramic plate mounted to the housing and fixed against rotation, the first ceramic plate having at least one flow passage in registry with the housing flow passage; and

a second ceramic plate rotatably mounted within the housing, the second ceramic plate having at least one flow passage that can be selectively placed into fluid communication with the housing flow passage; and

an accessory case adhered to the second ceramic plate, the accessory case having at least one flow passage in registry with the at least one second ceramic plate flow passage, wherein the at least one flow passage in the accessory case is configured to mount a flow adapter.

20. (New) The diverter valve of claim 19 wherein the accessory case is adhered to the second ceramic plate by an adhesive.

21. (New) The diverter valve of claim 20 wherein the adhesive is epoxy.

22. (New) The diverter valve of claim 19 wherein the accessory case mounts two flow adapters.

23. (New) The diverter valve of claim 22 wherein one flow adapter is for aerated flow and a second flow adapter is for stream flow.

24. (New) The diverter valve of claim 19 wherein the first ceramic plate is adhered to the housing.